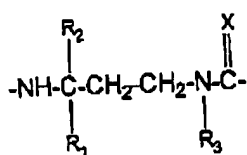


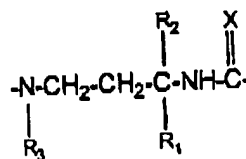
**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A pseudopeptide of at least 6 amino acids comprising at least one unit chosen from the B units of general formulae (I) and/or (II):



(I)



(II)

in which:

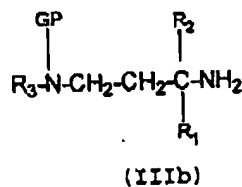
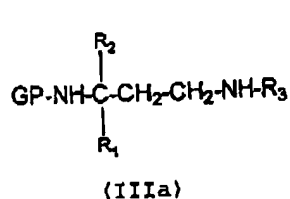
R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> each independently of one another represent an amino acid side chain and may be identical or different, and

X represents an oxygen or sulfur atom,

wherein the N-terminal of said unit is attached to the C-terminal of an amino acid or of a unit of said general formulae (I) or (II) and/or the C-terminal of said unit is attached to the N-terminal of an amino acid or of a unit of said general formulae (I) or (II).

2. (Original) The pseudopeptide as claimed in claim 1 having a size of at least 9 amino acids.
3. (Previously Presented) The pseudopeptide as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that X represents an oxygen atom.
4. (Previously Presented) The pseudopeptide as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that R<sub>2</sub> represents a hydrogen atom.
5. (Previously Presented) A method for synthesizing a pseudopeptide as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a monoprotected diamine of general formula IIIa or IIIb

## Application No. 09/889,178



in which:  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  each independently of one another represent an amino acid side chain and may be identical or different, and GP represents a group for protecting the amine functional group, is coupled with an amine in the presence of a carbonylating agent.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that GP is a Boc, Fmoc, Cbz or Alloc group.
7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the carbonylating agent is chosen from N, N'-carbonyldiimidazole and triphosgene.
8. (Previously Presented) A reagent for detecting a pathological condition associated with the presence of endogenous or exogenous proteins, characterized in that it comprises, as reactive substance, at least one pseudopeptide as claimed in claim 1.
9. (Original) The reagent as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the pseudopeptide is labeled with a tracer or biotin.
10. (Previously Presented) The reagent as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the size of the pseudopeptide is at least 12 amino acids.
11. (Previously Presented) A kit for detecting a pathological condition associated with the presence of endogenous or exogenous proteins, characterized in that a reagent according to claim 8, is attached to a solid support which is immunologically compatible with said reagent.
- 12.-13. (Canceled)
14. (Previously Presented) A method for detecting and/or assaying an antigen present in a sample by a competition technique in which said sample is brought into contact, simultaneously or in two stages, with a predetermined quantity of an antibody directed against

## Application No. 09/889,178

a portion of the antigen and a predetermined quantity of a reagent as claimed in claim 8, and the presence and/or the quantity of antigen present in said sample is determined.

15. (Previously Presented) A method for detecting and/or assaying an antibody present in a sample by a competition technique in which said sample is brought into contact simultaneously with a predetermined quantity of an antigen at least a portion of which is recognized by said antibody and a predetermined quantity of a reagent as claimed in claim 8, and the presence and/or the quantity of antibody present in said sample is determined.

16.-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as active ingredient, at least one pseudopeptide as claimed in claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.